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TCS 7197-60
Copy 26 of 30

31 March 1960

MEMORANDUM FOR: United States Intelligence Board Members

SUBJECT : Review of Approval of Billets for TALENT-Cleared
US Government and Outside Consultants

1. The number of TALENT billets charged to each of the agencies participating in the TALENT Security Control System (5,337), together with the number of billets held by [REDACTED] as of 30 March 1960, is 5,716. This is an increment of almost 200 in three months. The breakdown by agency and government is set forth at Attachment A. 25X1C
2. There are 100 Consultants from outside the government currently holding TALENT clearances (See Attachment B).
3. The grand total of clearances is currently 5816; the number debriefed since 1956 is 3,159.
4. The responsibility for approval of TALENT billets within the government lies with the Director of Central Intelligence. This responsibility is delegated to the TALENT Control Officer, CIA (TCO/CIA), in consultation with the TALENT Security Officer, CIA (TSO/CIA), who review requests for billets from the participating agencies along with the justifications.
5. At the outset of the TALENT program, when it became evident that there was a need to clear experts from outside the government in order to exploit the material fully, it was decided that the USIB itself would approve these billets. In addition to billets so approved, a number have been approved on the request of the White House. The full list of Consultants cleared at present has been made available, through the Ad Hoc Requirements Committee (ARC) Members, to each agency. Several months ago the Deputy Director of Central Intelligence approved a recommendation that the approval of Consultants be delegated to the TCO/CIA in consultation with the ARC. Since then four Consultants to the Electronic Defense Laboratory have been approved on behalf of the Army. Pending, as a result of a request from the Air Force, is approval of [REDACTED] for expanded data handling operations at SAC. This unit will require 142 additional TALENT billets for Air Force employees. The TCO/CIA intends to approve these in the near future.

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6. The undersigned believes that the pressure for adding billets will increase rather than decrease. This is so because of the urgency of fully exploiting one of the few sources of highly reliable information to meet the national security responsibilities of the intelligence community.

7. Because of the sensitivity of the collection source from which TALENT is derived, it is believed desirable that, from time to time, the USIB as a body should take note of the size and trend in the number of billets approved. Any comment or guidance would be welcomed by the TCO/CIA and the Members of the ARC who, together, maintain close surveillance of the functioning of the TALENT Control System.

25X1A



Chairman
Ad Hoc Requirements Committee
AND
TALENT Control Officer, CIA

Attachments: 2
A. and B. a/s

OACSI TCO (cys 2, 3)
ONI TCO (cys 4, 5, 6)
AFCIN TCO (cys 7, 8)
NSA TCO (cys 9, 10)
State Dept TCO (cys 11, 12)
JCS TCO (cys 13, 14)

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DD/P (cy 1)
A/C/DPD-DD/P (cy 15)
DD/I (P) TCO (cy 16)
OGI TCO (cy 17)
OSI TCO (cy 18)
ORR TCO (cy 19)
IO/Ops/DPD-DD/P (cy 20)
Director, PIC (cy 21)
CIA TSO (cy 22)
SO/Admin Br/DPD-DD/P (cy 23)
DD/P TCO (cy 24)
C/DMD/PIC (cy 25)
C/SRS/DPD-DD/P (cys 26 thru 30)

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